



WEATHER AND CROPS

May 7, 2007

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, May 6, 2007

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WEATHER: A cold front tracked south of the region Monday, April 30th providing cooler weather to begin the week. In addition, a wave of low pressure developed over the Ohio Valley Tuesday and tracked just south of the area with light rainfall observed across most of the region. Amounts were around one tenth of an inch recorded in the rain bucket, locally higher amounts toward the lower Hudson Valley. Thereafter, most of the time was dominated by high pressure with a minor exception. The first full weekend of May, a cold front tracked from north to south providing frost and freeze conditions in the Hudson Valley as the growing season has started. The recent dry weather resulted in cool crisp nights and at times favorable fire weather conditions. Area rivers and streams did take several days to finally recede below flood stage with some fluctuations along the Hudson River as area reservoirs did controlled releases from time to time.

CROPS: Cool, dry spring weather allowed farmers to continue their field preparation. The warm days dried the fields out, but the cool nights slowed the process. This week had more field preparation and some planting. Near ideal conditions provided 5.4 days of suitable fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. Winter wheat condition was 3 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Corn planting reached 11 percent compared to 28 percent last year and a five year average of 16 percent. Oat planting had reached 44 percent completion compared with 80 percent completion last year and 61 percent for the five year average. Potatoes were 31 percent planted compared with 41 percent at the same time last year and 31 percent for the five year average. The following are comments from reporters from across the state: Some corn was planted in Jefferson County. The hay fields were lush and green in St. Lawrence County. Clinton County had manure being spread and seedings sown. Some small grains and corn were planted in Cortland County. Herkimer County indicated a good week for fieldwork. Madison County began planting corn, oats, and hay seedings. Hay seedings had been sown and corn planting had begun in earnest in Albany County. Plowing was underway and corn was being planted in Montgomery County.

FRUIT: In the Lake Ontario fruit region, growers were watching for primary apple scab infections due to the rains received over the weekend. Apple powdery mildew will be a concern in orchards. Overwintering infection of powdery mildew was observed in Idared apples earlier this week. There were no signs of black knot infections in cherries and plums. In the Lake Erie fruit region, many growers were finishing pruning and tying. Bud break is expected to occur any day. In the Long Island grape region, Chardonnay blocks were budding, just a few days later than usual. Chardonnay blocks will be in flat leaf early next week with the warm weather. Growers positioned steel mesh fencing and netting in high pressure areas.

VEGETABLE: After a dry week, farmers were out in the fields planting crops. Onion producers throughout New York were out in the fields, and onion planting was approximately 50 percent complete, above the five-year average of 37 percent. Sweet corn planting under plastic was underway across the state. Approximately 13 percent of sweet corn acreage was planted, compared to a five-year average of 19 percent. Planting of green peas was progressing in western New York. Snap beans were approximately 5 percent planted, below the five-year average of 12 percent. Planting of cabbage in the eastern section of the state was going well, but western New York cabbage was still behind.

LIVESTOCK: The growing season began. Grass was turning green and pastures continued to dry. Many of the herds across the state were moving back onto pasture. Pasture conditions were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Warmer weather is needed to promote growth.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 6, 2007

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	68	36	52	-2	20	82	+21	0.19	-0.51	6.09	+2.50
Glens Falls	66	28	49	-3	4	43	+1	0.38	-0.39	4.90	+1.26
Poughkeepsie	76	36	55	+2	36	108	+28	0.07	-0.89	8.16	+3.84
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	61	29	45	-3	0	17	-12	0.20	-0.81	5.16	-0.33
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	60	30	46	-5	0	48	+5	0.12	-0.52	4.11	+0.77
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	61	30	47	-4	5	44	+9	1.70	-0.53	3.38	-0.07
Massena	63	29	48	-4	5	47	+6	0.10	-0.46	3.24	+0.11
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	66	39	52	0	17	63	+6	0.06	-0.61	3.00	-0.44
Wales	65	32	49	-2	2	31	-5	0.06	-0.77	3.64	-0.84
Niagara Falls	67	36	52	-2	18	60	-4	0.02	-0.68	3.14	-0.61
Rochester	68	37	53	0	21	81	+14	0.01	-0.61	3.43	+0.29
Watertown	63	27	47	-3	5	45	+7	0.17	-0.41	1.98	-1.03
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	68	31	51	-2	10	51	-9	0.12	-0.51	2.96	-0.39
Geneva	67	35	50	-2	9	48	-6	0.16	-0.51	3.45	-0.03
Honeoye	67	28	50	-3	10	61	+6	0.15	-0.49	3.84	+0.35
Ithaca	65	28	48	-4	5	42	-1	0.13	-0.57	3.58	+0.07
Penn Yan	67	33	51	-1	14	75	+21	0.13	-0.54	3.27	-0.21
Syracuse	65	36	52	-2	14	68	+3	0.11	-0.66	4.44	+0.45
Warsaw	66	35	49	+2	5	32	+3	0.10	-0.67	4.30	+0.27
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	68	27	49	0	5	24	-4	0.06	-0.56	3.46	+0.16
Elmira	70	27	50	-3	11	63	+14	0.07	-0.60	2.03	-1.23
Franklinville	66	27	48	+2	5	25	+4	0.12	-0.65	3.78	-0.16
Jamestown	71	35	53	+5	20	54	+22	0.64	-0.22	5.02	+0.46
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	65	37	52	0	13	64	+19	0.07	-0.67	2.66	-1.10
Cobleskill	63	33	49	-2	0	33	-6	0.27	-0.50	7.11	+3.16
Morrisville	64	36	48	-2	1	29	-5	0.23	-0.54	5.18	+1.43
Norwich	67	30	49	-2	3	26	-15	0.50	-0.31	4.89	+0.83
Oneonta	72	32	52	+4	17	59	+25	0.51	-0.41	6.03	+1.76
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	75	35	53	+2	29	77	+34	0.21	-0.70	6.90	+2.15
New York	81	48	62	+6	87	205	+73	0.42	-0.49	12.20	+7.63

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning.

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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